

EXAMINER 'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Steve Wegman on 01-16-09.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claim 1 is canceled.

Claim 2, lines 2-3, change "a key pad configured to input an extension number of a network destination telephone apparatus;" to --- a key pad configured to input an extension number of a call destination, a plurality of telephone apparatuses being associated with the call destination; ---.

Claim 2, line 10, change "to access the network destination telephone apparatus" to --- to access a network telephone apparatus of the call destination ---.

Reason for Allowance

2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claims 2-3, the prior art fails to teach or suggest an Internet telephone apparatus, comprising a controller configured to set a part of the extension number as a third

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octet of the IP address, to set another part of the extension number as a fourth octet of the IP address, to generate an IP address based on a combination of the first octet and the second octet of the IP address stored in the memory together with the set third octet and the set fourth octet of the IP address, and to access a network destination telephone apparatus of the call destination over the Internet based on the IP address, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claim 2.

Regarding claims 4-10, the prior art fails to teach or suggest an Internet telephone apparatus, comprising controller configured to determine whether an input extension number is a predefined number, to replace the input extension number with a predetermined number when the extension number is the predefined number, to set the predetermined number as a first host address, to generate an first IP address based on a combination of the network address stored in the memory and the first host address, and to access a network telephone apparatus of the call destination over the Internet based on the first IP address, the network telephone apparatus of the call destination being associated with the input extension number; and the controller, when the network telephone apparatus of the call destination is unavailable, increments the predetermined number, sets the incremented number as a second host address, generates a second IP address based on a combination of the network address stored in the memory and the second host address, and accesses another network telephone apparatus of the call destination over the Internet based on the second IP address without a user intervention at the Internet telephone apparatus, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claims 4, and 7.

Regarding claim 11, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a method of communicating over the Internet utilizing an Internet telephone apparatus connected to a network in which the common network address of an IP address is utilized for a plurality of Internet telephone apparatuses, a memory storing the common network address, an extension number of each telephone apparatus in the network corresponding to a host address of an IP address, the communicating comprising: generating an IP address based on a combination of the network address stored in the memory and the set host address; and accessing the network destination telephone apparatus over the Internet based on the IP address, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claim 11.

Regarding claim 12, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a method of communicating over the Internet utilizing an Internet telephone apparatus connected to a network in which a first octet and a second octet of an IP address is commonly utilized for a plurality of Internet telephone apparatuses, a memory storing the first octet and the second octet of the IP address, a part of an extension number of each telephone apparatus on the network corresponding to a third octet of the IP address and another part of the extension number of the telephone apparatus corresponding to a fourth octet of the IP address, the communicating method comprising: generating an IP address based on a combination of the first octet and the second octet of the IP address stored in the memory together with the set third octet and the set fourth octet of the IP address; and accessing the network destination telephone apparatus over the Internet based on the IP address, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claim 12.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duc Ho whose telephone number is (571) 272-3147. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:30 am to 6:00 pm.

If attempt to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jay Patel, can be reached on (571) 272-2988.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

5. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner

/DUC C HO/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2419

1-16-09